

Students' Handouts

FINDING HUMOUR

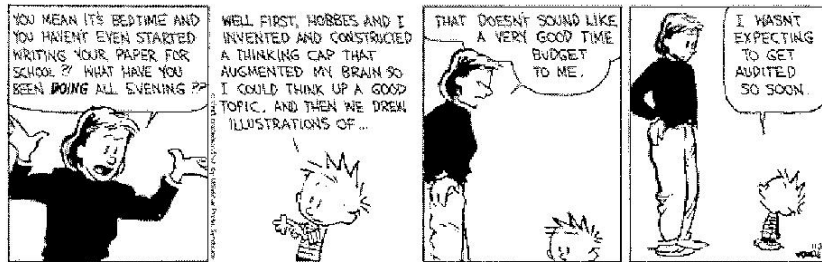


Laugh a Little!

Finding the whimsical, incongruous and unexpected; being able to laugh at yourself.

Worksheet 1
Finding Humour
Strip 1

Calvin and Hobbes by Bill Watterson



Augmented = Strengthened
Audited = Checked

Strip 2

Calvin and Hobbes by Bill Watterson



1. What makes these 2 comic strips humorous/funny?

2. In what way is this cartoonist trying to lift the spirits of a student who is under pressure to complete his homework?

Worksheet 2: Defining Habits of Mind

FINDING HUMOUR



Date _____	Name _____
Class _____	
Recall what the word means.	
Use a dictionary to look up and record the definition of the word. Include the origin of the word.	
Use a thesaurus to look up and record synonyms of the word.	
Tell why it is important to have this HOM for the diverse perspectives, cultural differences, and different challenges faced by people in our community.	

Worksheet 3: Guided Reflection on Finding Humour.

To be reflective means to mentally **wander** through where you have been and try to make some sense out of it.

After you have watched the funny and humorous video clips do a short reflection based on the following prompts:

1. Discuss with your friends what made the video clips funny and what are some of the things that made you laugh. Pen down your discussion points:

2. Send a short letter to yourself explaining your favourite funny moment in the video and who you would recommend it to and why:

Dear _____

I watched a funny video clip today. For me the most hilarious part was _____

I think I should get _____ to watch this because he/she _____

It would really _____

3. Which of the following is important to you with regard to humour?

- Feeling good ☐
- Raising the spirit of others ☐
- Being able to see the funny side of situations and laughing at myself as well as at others. ☐
- Everything ☐

Pen down your thoughts about your choice/s:

Worksheet 4. What's so Funny?



This is a picture of John Hurt playing the part of a disfigured man, John Merrick, in a famous movie called *The Elephant Man*.

Synopsis: Merrick is a gentle man. He would never hurt anybody. The people point and laugh, however, at his ugliness.

There is a man that wants to show him off in freak shows. This man does it for the money, not caring about John's feelings.

"I am not an animal! I am a human being! I... am... a man!" - John Merrick

This is the only line in the film in which John Merrick actually speaks out in his own defence.

Finding Humour is not about using humour antagonistically and laughing at others' misfortune, injuries, disfigurement and vulgarities etc.

We use humour to raise spirits; of others and of ourselves.

Why are the following not about Humour as we define it?

1. The Elephant man:

2. A classmate sitting on a bunch of thumbtacks placed on his seat:

3. Someone using vulgarities and obscenities in class:

Finding humor

Model Profession.



The clown makes us look at the lighter side of life and helps people enjoy themselves. Sometimes a clown can make us laugh at ourselves by making us think about some of the funny things people do.

Model Individual.



Charlie Chaplin was the most famous comedian in the world during the early years of film. He was also a talented writer and director. Many of Chaplin's comedies made insightful comments about the world in which his audience lived. His sense of humor continues to inspire and entertain today.

Model quote:

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."

Victor Borge

Student reflections.

Some I have noticed using the habit of **finding humor** is

Photograph

My favorite quote about **finding humor** is

A time when I have used this habit of mind is

Worksheet 6

Role-play the following scenario:

Title: Insults R Us

Ah Seng, Muthu and Ahmad have met each other after the school holidays at a classmate's birthday party.

Ah Seng (smirking and shaking his head): Eh. Muthu! Haven't seen you for so long! You better take it easy on the ice cream. You look so fat that sumo wrestlers will look skinny next to you!

Muthu (looking angry): Funny is it ? You don't talk okay? Why? Want to show off your body in front of the girls is it? Ha! Ha! Don't stand near the noodles. They might mistake you for chopstick! And your hair. Ha! Ha! Like chicken!

Ahmad (snorting and laughing out loud): Ha! You are both ugly like pigs and your bodies are even uglier! Look at me I'm handsome!

Ah Seng and Muthu are staring angrily at each other close to coming to blows. They stop and stare at Ahmad who really is good looking.

Ah Seng (to Ahmad): Step outside if you have guts. I teach you to laugh at me pretty boy! Let me rearrange your face and make it really handsome. **(To Muthu)** You watch out fatty! I get you next time.

Ahmad (looking scared): Eh! I'm joking!

Muthu: Anytime chopstick! Chicken head! Cluck! Cluck! Cluck! Cluck!

Ahmad and Ah Seng get into fistfight and the whole party is spoiled.

After your role-play, rewrite this same scene but this time with all the characters demonstrating the use of the HOM, Finding Humour. How will it turn out?

Write out your role-play neatly and hand it in to your teacher by attaching it to the original version. You may give your own play a nice title to reflect its use of Finding Humour.

Name _____

Date _____

HOM Performance Checklist

HOM: Finding Humour

What it looks like:	Observable Indicators	Often	Sometimes	Emerging
	Uses humour to ease tension, raise spirits and make others happy			
	Looks for humour and absurdity in appropriate situations			
	Does not take one's self too seriously			
	Does not find humour in the wrong places such as human differences, vulgarity, violence etc.			
what it sounds like:	Jokes about errors and pokes fun at one's self			
	Laughs at one's self as well as at others in funny situations			
	Verbally playful when interacting with others			

Notes:

Finding Humour

What it looks like

- Uses humour to ease tension, raise spirits and make others happy
- Looks for humour and absurdity in appropriate situations
- Does not take one's self too seriously
- Generate and collects humorous stories to tell others
- Does not find humour in the wrong places such as human differences, vulgarity, violence etc.

What it sounds like

- Jokes about errors and pokes fun at one's self
- Laughs at one's self as well as others in funny situations
- Verbally playful when interacting with others

Rubric for Assessing Finding Humour

Criteria	Level		
	1	2	3
Able to laugh at situations and themselves	Rarely	Sometimes	Most of the time
Appreciates humour	Rarely	Sometimes	Most of the time
Able to distinguish between situations of human frailty and truly funny situations	Unable to see the difference	Makes an effort to distinguish between the two	Shows compassion for human frailty and laughs at appropriate situations
Makes effort to uplift and encourage others with humour	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually raises the spirits of friends/ group member with humour